

Aspen - Birch Woodland/Forest Complex (woodland phase, ABW)



The Aspen - Birch Woodland/Forest Complex (woodland phase) map class (ABW) is the woodland phase of three compositionally similar map classes that are mapped separately because of their different physiognomic characteristics. ABW has a woodland appearance with an open canopy. Tree height is generally less than ABF. ABW is similar in composition to ABF, dominated by aspen species (either trembling or bigtooth) and to some extent, red maple. Birches are often present.

ABW has a light yellow to pink deciduous tree signature with a somewhat smooth texture. The canopy is open, and rock outcrops are visible.

ABW occurs at low elevations and at all aspects. It is mostly found within the 1947 fire area.

The ABW map class represents two NVCS associations: [Early Successional Woodland/Forest](#) and [Birch - Oak Talus Woodland](#). The Early Successional Woodland/Forest association has three physiognomic subtypes that blend into each other with all intermediate variations present. At the time of mapping, ABW was considered a distinct vegetation type from ABF and ABS. Nevertheless, it was a difficult type to map because all three phases blend into one another. In addition, ABW grades into the Mixed Conifer - Deciduous Woodland when spruce reach >25%, and to ROW when oak becomes dominant.

Polygons: 25, Hectares: 219, Average size (h): 9

Accuracy Assessment Results

The ABW map class was assessed with the two other map class phases within the complex (ABF and ABS) because the three map classes share the same vegetation community.

Producers' accuracy: 68% (Confidence interval 58% - 78%)

Users' accuracy: 86% (Confidence interval 78% - 94%)

See Aspen - Birch Woodland/Forest Complex (forest phase) map class (ABF) for details.